

Minutes From a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life  
Held on  
April 23, 1999 Hall 769 10:00am

**Present:** Dr. D. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Mr. B. Boncore, Ms C. Boujaklian, Mr. R. Côté, Mr. C. Dennis, Ms A. Ghadban, Dr. S.M. Graub, Mr. R. Green, Mr. D. Hinton, Dr. J. Jans, Ms A. Kerby, Ms L. Lipscombe, Ms A. Siano, Ms L. Toscano, Mr. H. Zarins.

**Absent with Regrets:** Dr. F. Shaver, Mr. Mike Logan, Ms T. Ryan, Ms. J. Deri, Mr. J. Johnson, Mr. B. MacIver, Mr. V. Francisco

**Delegates:** Ms L. Rubinlicht represented Mr. W. Curran, Ms D. Gleason represented Ms K. Hedrich

**Guests:** Ms M. Littman, Mr. C. Emond, Mr. M. Rozahegy

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dr. Boisvert informed Council that as Mr. Curran was unable to be at the meeting, item 6.1 Webster Library Renovations would be deferred to a future CCSL meeting. Dr. Boisvert also requested that item 8.1 Refurbishing of the Mezzanine be identified under business arising as 4.2 and the Athletic motion, Sports Evaluation Parametres, be identified under Report from the Chair of the Recreation & Athletic Board as 7.2. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Mr. Côté and seconded by Dr. Graub.

*The Motion was carried unanimously*

**2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR**

Dr. Boisvert announced the Selection Committee for the Director of Health Services had narrowed their search down to 6 candidates and the interviews were scheduled for May 3, 1999. The anticipated start date for the Director should be no later than the Fall of 1999.

Dr. Boisvert spoke briefly about the annual CCSL Awards Night and the Athletic Awards Banquet both held on April 3rd. The events, well attended, were successful and most enjoyable.

Dr. Boisvert took the opportunity to offer congratulations to Mr. Rob Green on his election as President of the CSU for 99-2000 and to Mr. Colin Dennis on his re-election as President of the GSA for 99-2000.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 1999**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms Kerby and seconded by Ms Ghadban.

*The Motion was carried unanimously*

#### 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**4.1 Research on Human Subjects:** Dr. Boisvert drew Council's attention to the document distributed. The hand-out gave information on where protocol forms are available and the process to follow as well as information on the background and goals of this policy. Dr. Jans, the Acting Chair of the University Committee on Research involving humans, spoke briefly about the history of the policy. He indicated that this was an evolving document, a "living" document. He confirmed that as a condition of government funding, all research done on human subjects must be reviewed by the committee. Dr. Graub asked what the approximate time-frame is from when a project is submitted to when it is approved. Dr. Jans replied that a year ago, the process was completed in a couple of weeks. However now the committee meets once a month and if there are questions concerning an application, it is referred to the next meeting. This makes the process lengthy. As many Student Services departments have questionnaires for evaluation of their services or programmes offered to students, concern was expressed that these evaluations would come under the jurisdiction of the committee. Ms Kerby asked that as these questionnaires are for research on program evaluation for humans rather than research on humans, would that make them exempt. Dr. Jans replied that at this time the interpretation was that this type of evaluation must be approved by the committee. However, he hoped that further along, there may be some clarification on this issue as he realized the enormous burden this could place on the committee. However, he reiterated how important it was for all departments to comply with this policy in order to not jeopardize funding for the university.

**4.2 Refurbishing of the Mezzanine:** Dr. Boisvert informed Council that an architect has been engaged to redesign the Mezzanine in order to make optimal use of this area. This design will take into consideration the many types of activities that traditionally have gone on in that area. Furniture and backdrops will also be purchased to enhance the "new look".

#### 5. Reports

**5.1 Residence Life:** Mr. Côté introduced Ms Mimi Littman, Director of Residence Life. Ms Littman gave an over-view of the history of the Residence at Concordia. She spoke briefly about the present condition of the Residence and the problems that are encountered with the day-to-day management of a housing facility with the current financial restrictions that the University is facing. She also gave insight into the different types of students who choose to live in residence as well as the types of problems that the staff deals with daily. There are 6 resident assistants (3male/3female) who are trained to help the students adjust to residence life as well as help organize activities. Ms Littman felt one of the problems in Residence is that students feel isolated from the University, that their needs, especially the maintenance problems, are not a primary concern. The Residence is not run like other university departments; it is not a 9-5 operation. Mr. Hinton questioned how can the university consider expanding the residence if we cannot deal with the problems the residence is currently facing. Mr. Côté felt there are many sides to the equation. The University must work together to support what Residence is trying to do. He felt there have been noticeable improvements in the last two years. There has also been a significant increase in students who chose to return to residence. He said there will always be smaller issues like "leaking pipes" but it was important to look at our needs not just from the physical plant but from management long term needs. Mr. Côté felt strongly that you just have to visit Residence to feel the



vibrancy of the community. Dr. Boisvert thanked Ms Littman for a most informative presentation.

#### 6. Student Life Issues

Mr. Colin Dennis asked for speaking privileges for two graduate students, Mr. Mark Rozahegy and Mr. Marc Lajoie. It was explained briefly that as the Phd in Humanities at Concordia is not affiliated with any undergraduate courses, those graduate students do not have the opportunity to obtain teaching experience at the undergraduate level. This past year, five graduate students offered a free non-credit course for undergraduate students on 20th Century Critical Thought. These students hoped to put in place for next year official recognition for the course. Dr. Boisvert informed Council that CCSL Special Projects has assisted financially this year with a contribution of \$800.00. Although he thought the project had great merit, he was not sure how CCSL could further help with this initiative as the recognition for the course would be an academic decision. However, Dr. Boisvert welcomed the students to apply for CCSL Special Project Funding for the academic year 99-2000. Mr. Dennis thanked the members of CCSL for listening to the GSA's concerns.

Mr. Dennis also informed Council that the GSA had allocated funds for emergency loans for graduate students. Mr. Dennis wished the fund to be administered by Financial Aid. However, he wanted the eligibility requirements to be less stringent than the current requirements by Financial Aid as he felt the needs of the graduate students were dramatically different from undergraduate students. Mr. Côté said he would be happy to assist the GSA with guidelines that can be mutually agreed upon. Dr. Boisvert congratulated the GSA on this initiative for their students.

#### 7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE RECREATION & ATHLETICS BOARD

7.1 Motion on Recreation & Athletics Facilities. Dr. Boisvert drew Council's attention to the motion before them which was moved by Ms Kerby and seconded by Mr. Zarins. This Motion will set in place the process for facilities now on the Loyola Campus and the process for the long-term developments on the SGW Campus. It was important to note that \$3.8 million of the students' contribution to the campaign was earmarked for Athletic facilities. If "ground is broken" by Spring 2000 students who have contributed to this campaign will also have the opportunity to use the new facilities. After a brief discussion, Dr. Boisvert asked if Council was prepared to vote.

*The motion was carried unanimously  
10 in favour 0 opposed 0 abstentions*

Mr. Hinton asked if there was student representation on the Long Term Development Committee. Mr. Emond replied as this committee was still in the preliminary stages it was thought that at this time it would not be a productive use of students' time. The Dean of Students, as a committee member, will represent the students' interests. Dr. Boisvert affirmed that the working groups of the committee would have student representation. Dr. Boisvert also offered to report back to CCSL regularly on the steering committee's work.

#### 7.2 Interuniversity Sport Evaluation Guideline/Parameters

Dr. Boisvert drew Council's attention to the document before them. Ms Kerby spoke briefly about the process that led to the document being presented to Council. There was a substantive amount of research compiled as well as considerable input from the

students and the coaches. Current guidelines at other universities were also examined. However what looks good on paper does not always work in practice. The Recreation & Athletic Board felt it would be advisable after one year to evaluate this process. In that way adjustments or some fine-tuning can be made. Ms Kerby, seconded by Mr. Zarins moved the following motion:

*Be it resolved that CCSL accept the Interuniversity Sport Evaluation Guidelines Parameters approved by the Recreation & Athletic Board with the understanding that it will be reviewed after one year and may be fine-tuned.*

Concerns were expressed as to what considerations for cutting a team may carry weight. Ms Kerby reiterated that one single criteria was not to be taken as a dominant factor. After a brief discussion, the motion was put to a vote.

*The motion was carried unanimously*

#### 8. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dennis informed Council that the GSA is in the process of setting up a Graduate Student Life Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 for the year 99-2000.

Dr. Boisvert took the opportunity to thank the student representatives on Council for their time and input.

#### 9. NEXT MEETING

As there were no outstanding issues to be discussed, Dr. Boisvert announced that the next meeting of CCSL would be in the Fall of 1999.

#### 10. TERMINATION OF MEETING

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Ms Kerby and seconded by Dr. Graub.

*The motion was carried*